

COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD MINUTES

October 14, 2011

Present Denise Reed, Rebecca Baez, Jeannine Nash, Ana Briones-Espinoza, Filipa Rios; Keith Stevenson, Jasmin Kirkland and Margie de Ruyter

Excused Adriana Paulson, Ann Durham, Nelson Leone, Paul Moose and Sonia Ruiz

Absent Awichu Akwanya and Scott Suckow

Staff Juana S. Duenas, Dan Vasquez and Corinne M. Rodriguez

Roll Call:

2:42 P.M.

Acceptance of Agenda – No Quorum

Approval of Minutes

- September 16, 2011 – No Quorum

CAP Program Director's Report

Juana Duenas provided the Director's Update on the *Ready, Set, WORK! (RSW!)* CalWORKs Diversion Demonstration Project Evaluation on behalf of Sylvia Melena. *RSW!* is an innovative CalWORKs diversion program that allows the County to offer supportive services and intensive job search as an alternative to cash assistance. The County received a three-year State waiver through 2013 to pilot *RSW!* and provide a one-time payment to address an episode of need, followed by performance-based diversion payments to move participants towards work. Stage 1 Child Care services are not available for traditional diversion participants. Traditional diversion offers an up-front, lump sum payment without incentives to get a job. Effective November 1, 2010, *RSW!* was piloted for 6 months at the North Inland and the Northeast Family Resource Centers (FRCs). Arbor Employment & Training provided the *RSW!* support and employment services and was co-located at the FRCs. They conducted a comprehensive assessment; enrolled appropriate clients; and offered supportive services and intensive job search. An independent, comprehensive evaluation of the *RSW!* Program was conducted. The evaluation found that *RSW!* participants left the program in better financial condition than when they started, found work more quickly than the CalWORKs comparison group, were less likely to need CalWORKs in the future, and if in need of CalWORKs, were on assistance for a shorter period. Long-term follow-up of *RSW!* participants will help confirm the initial findings. A goal of the *RSW!* Demonstration Project was to identify a more cost-effective assistance model that provides short-term intensive services and prevents long-term dependence on public assistance. *RSW!* is a front-loaded, four month program that provides intensive services to reduce dependency on long-term assistance.

On behalf of Sylvia Melena, Thrive Coordinator Teresa Smith conducted a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2010/2011 - San Diego County Earned Income Tax Credit Campaign "*EARN IT, KEEP IT, SAVE IT.*"

- High rate of return clients
- Coalition was pleased and surprised that the numbers went up despite high unemployment and economy
- Teresa Smith shared an overview of Thrive Initiative and shared the 2011 EITC campaign results:
 - \$21.8 million in Federal and State refunds
 - 19,052 Federal tax returns completed
 - \$7,197,129 total EITC claimed
- Next steps for upcoming 2012 Countywide EITC Coalition:
 - Linking with other coalitions and initiatives
 - Will outreach to agencies such as Bronze Triangle, Jacob's Center and O'Farrell Community School
- CAB members made the following outreach suggestions:
 - Southeast San Diego, Twitter, Facebook and CAL-NEVA

Handouts:

- Community Action Board - Program Expenditures Report
- Community Action Partnership FY2011-12 CONTRACTS SUMMARY
- Community Action Board Recruitment Print Advertising Strategy
- San Diego Community Action Partnership Newsletter – October 2011

**Update on
Media/Outreach Ad
Hoc Committee**

AD HOC Committee is comprised of Ana Briones-Espinoza (Chair), Denise Reed, Jeannine Nash, Rebecca Baez and Sonia Ruiz.

- Ad Hoc Committee will have a media strategy by October 31st and an E-Blast by November 9th.
- CAP staff developed print advertising strategy for CAB recruitment. CAP staff provided a handout for CAB's review.

Action Items

- Approval of CAB By-Laws– No Quorum
- Approval of CAB By-Laws Board Letter – No Quorum

Note: CAB members will review and be prepared to vote at November 9, 2011 meeting.

Discussion

CAB Vacancies - Dan

- CAB discussion and recommendation for public sector vacancies for Districts 2 and 5 did not occur.
- CAB vacancies have been the only State finding during an audit. Due to this finding, the State requires that CAP provide a monthly report on CAB vacancies. The report is prepared by CAP staff and signed by Sylvia Melena.
- Absences need to be addressed. A quorum has been a challenge for this board due to CAB vacancies, absences and lack of alternates.
- Next CAB meeting date discussion was tabled.

**CAB Member
Reports**

CAB members provided the following reports:

- Jeannine Nash announced December 16th Dinner at San Diego County - Aging and Independent Services to provide information about the senior Fix-It Program presentation.
- Filipa Rios of Community Resource Center (CRC) reported that the CRC began working with the County to conduct CalFresh and Medi-Cal Video conferencing intakes. Video conferencing technology allows the client to complete their face-to-face intake interviews with county staff remotely. CRC provides the client with the equipment, facilities and application assistance.
- Jasmin Kirkland reported that the Greater Works Empowerment Center held its quarterly meeting regarding the Bread of Heaven Food Pantry on October 13th.
- Ana Briones of Mental Health Systems, Inc., will send out Suicide Prevention Trainings

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

4:15 PM

**Minutes approved
by**

October Minutes will be placed as action item for November 2011 meeting due to no quorum.

Ana Briones-Espinoza, Chair

Date

Next Meeting

November 9, 2011

- CAP staff will e-mail CAB members the San Diego County Earned Income Tax Credit Campaign s PowerPoint Presentation.
